

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, lines 8-15 as follows:

In order to supply fluid thermoplastic material to each cavity to form the cover layer on the golf ball core, a cavity gate 22 having an opening is provided in the center of each upper hemispherical cavity 10 as shown in Figs. 3-5. Fluid thermoplastic material is delivered from a supply 24 to the gate via a hot runner manifold 26 (Fig. 1) in the upper support plate 2 and via a heated nozzle 28 adjacent to each gate 22. Delivery of fluid thermoplastic material is controlled by a valve pin 30 which is operable between three positions under the control of a valve actuating device 32 ~~as will be described with reference to Figs. 3-5.~~ The valve pin has a lower end having a diameter matching the cavity gate opening for closing the same. Above the lower end, the valve pin includes a narrow portion having a diameter less than that of the lower end to allow thermoplastic material to pass thereby when the narrow portion is in the opening of the cavity gate as will be described with reference to Figs. 3-5.